



May

Jane Dowd

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Jane Dowd as winner of May's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Jane has volunteered for 4-H for 11 years. She was leader of the Douglas Woolies sheep club and co-leader of the Launch Pads rocket club with her husband

Kevin. Currently, she is organizational leader of the Creative Kids 4-H club. Jane has taught leather craft at Clover College for several years and has helped with the county-level senior Life Challenge contest.

"I enjoy teaching. 4-H has a lot to offer," said Jane. "The projects we work on in 4-H use skills that are useful for a lifetime. I enjoy watching youth build skills and grow in character for adulthood. My favorite experience is every time a 4-H'er grasps the idea or skill we are working on and you can see the light bulb turn on inside them with a big 'I get it!' look. This sometimes comes while making the project and sometimes the reward is the huge smile they wear when they see the ribbon earned."

Jane and Kevin live in Lincoln with their seven children, whom she homeschools. Jane also volunteers as a Sunday School teacher and as a speaker on spinning wool and medieval history lifestyles.

Congratulations to Jane! Volunteers like her are indeed the heart of 4-H!

Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer by submitting the form online at <http://lanaster.unl.edu/4h> or available at the extension office. Nominations of co-volunteers welcome.



Quality Assurance Training, May 9

Lancaster County will be holding a Quality Assurance training on Tuesday, May 9 at 7 p.m. If you have not attended a training yet through your school or club, please plan to attend. This year's topics for the quality assurance trainings are animal handling, carcass and product quality. Every 4-H and FFA youth planning to exhibit livestock this year must complete this certification class prior to June 15. Call Deanna at 441-7180 for further details.

Free Backpack for Filling Out Livestock Premise ID Form

All youth who attend any quality assurance training in Lancaster County will be highly encouraged to fill out a livestock premise identification form for the Department of Agriculture. All youth who register their farm during the training will be rewarded with a free backpack donated by the University of Nebraska Animal Science Department and the USDA.

If you have already attended a quality assurance training and did not receive a backpack, please call Deanna. She is also available to come to your 4-H meetings to assist in filling out premise ID forms. Youth will need to know their parent's driver license number and the legal description of their residence. Plat maps are available at the extension office if needed.

Teen Council Won't Meet for Two Months

4-H Teen Council will **not** meet in May or June. The next meeting will be July 9.

Pre-Fair Leader Training, May 23

New leaders, experienced leaders, 4-H members and parents are invited to this leader training on Tuesday, May 23, 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Come and receive information on how to fill out the entry tags, the in's and out's of interview judging, Life Challenge, Presentations Contest and other important county fair information. Preregister by May 22 by calling 441-7180.

Jammie Jamboree, June 17

Join us at the Jammie Jamboree and make jammie bottoms on Saturday, June 17, 9 a.m. Bring the Simplicity pattern 5338, prewashed flannel or 100% cotton fabric for the bottoms only and matching thread. Also bring your sewing machine, basic sewing equipment such as scissors, pins, measuring tape, etc. and a sack lunch. Adults are welcome. Sign up by June 12 by calling 441-7180. Open to non-4-H youth. Jammie bottoms may be entered at the fair and styled in the Style Revue.

Photo Darkroom

If you are interested in learning how to use a darkroom, contact 4-H volunteer Pat Heather at 786-2741. She has been the Lancaster County Fair photography superintendent for several years and has valuable knowledge to share. Also, at this year's Lancaster County Fair there is a special top award for darkroom photo enlargement.

Life Challenge Contests

4-H Life Challenge judging contests help youth learn more about issues related to family and consumer science (FCS). Contests are open to all 4-H'ers, need not be enrolled in a specific project. Preregistration is not needed for the county-level contests. Contact Tracy at 441-7180 for more information.

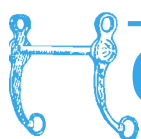
County-level Senior Life Challenge (for ages 12 and up) is scheduled for Friday, June 9, 10 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Contest questions will be based on the following 4-H manuals: Fast Foods, You're the Chef, Foodworks, Youth in Motion, Shopping in Style, Attention Shoppers, Design Decisions and Home Building Blocks. They may be checked out prior to the contest for studying purposes.

The statewide FCS Life Challenge (for ages 12 and up) will be held Monday, June 26 and Tuesday, June 27 on UNL East Campus. To participate, please contact Tracy at 441-7180 by June 5. Information is online at <http://4h.unl.edu/programs/paselc/>.

The county-level Junior Life Challenge (ages 8-11) will be held Friday, July 7 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Contest questions will be based on the following 4-H manuals: Six Easy Bites, Attention Shoppers, Health A "Discovering Myself" and The Sitter.

Clothing Level 1 Patterns Available

The 2006 pattern selection for 4-H Clothing Level 1 has been developed. Contact Tracy at 441-7180 for pattern brands and numbers.



HORSE BITS

Stampede Results

Approximately 156 4-H Youth participated in the fourth annual 4-H Horse Stampede held March 11 at the Animal Science Building on University of Nebraska East Campus. The Stampede consists of the 4-H state horse-related competitions: Horse Bowl, Public Speaking, Demonstration and Art Contests.

Lancaster County participants and their placings were:

Horse Quiz Bowl: team members Alex and Will Scheideler, Gabby Warner, Robyn Shannon and Rachael Pflug, blue.

Art Contest: Hannah Coffman, blue; Rachael Pflug, Reserve Champion. Rachael's work will be featured in the program of the Nebraska State 4-H Horse Expo held in Grand Island this July.

Trail Clinic, April 25

The Horse VIPs Committee is presenting a Trail Clinic on Tuesday, April 25 at the Lancaster Event Center beginning at 5:30 with a possible follow-up clinic at a later date for those who attend the first session. It is open to Lancaster County 4-H horse members ages 8 through 18. To participate, please RSVP to Joyce Agena by calling 486-0335 or e-mailing memaagena@wmconnect.com. A limited number of horses and riders will be allowed although all are welcome to come and observe.

Kim Bowen and Kate Knapp are the clinicians. Kim and Kate have schooled State (Ne-Ks-Ok-Tx) and Regional Trail and All-Around Champions. They have schooled Amateur, Novice Amateur and Youth students to Horse of the Year, top 5 National standings in various events including Trail, English Pleasure, Showmanship and Horsemanship.

District/State Entry Forms Due May 12

District and State forms are now available and can be found at <http://lanaster.unl.edu> under Horse News. You can also pick them up at the extension office. All district/state entries are due to the county office by May 12. No late entries will be accepted. (All checks must be made out to Lancaster County Extension)

Youth must be 12 as of January 1 to enter: Junior age group is 12-14; Senior age group is 15+.

If you are going to districts:

You should have filled out a 4-H enrollment form for this year.

Your horse ID form(s) must be in the office by May 12.

You must have passed your Horsemen Level II before you send in your entry forms.

You must have passed Level III to enter Roping, Hunter Hack, Elementary Dressage, Advanced Western and English Pleasure, Advanced Western Horsemanship, Advanced English Equitation, 2 year Old Snaffle Bit, 3 year old Western Pleasure, Trail and Working Ranch Horse.

You must have a Level IV to enter Western Riding.

In hand classes, no minimum level is required.

Any questions, call Marty at 441-7180 or e-mail mcrucikshank2@unl.edu

Attention All 4-H Riders All Riding Skills Level Tests Must be Done in Group Testings

As of March 18, 2006, all riding skills level tests must be done in group testings. Individual tests done by leaders will no longer be accepted. Test dates, location and times to be announced, will be:

- Saturday, May 6
- Tuesday, June 13
- Saturday, July 8

Please RSVP at least one week in advance of the test date to Marty at 441-7180 or mcrucikshank2@unl.edu. If a rider absolutely can not make one of these test dates they must notify the extension office by the end of April so other arrangements can be made. After that date, no exceptions to the test dates will be made.